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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Olaf WEISSMUELLER et al.
Serial No. : 09/982,563
Filed : October 18, 2001
For : A CONVERTIBLE WITH A ROOF, WHICH CAN
BE STOWED IN THE REAR REGION OF THE
VEHICLE BELOW A LID
Group Art Unit : 3612
Examiner : (Not yet known)

Certificate of Mailing Under 37 CFR 1.8

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS, WASHINGTON, DC 20231 on January 22, 2002.

Frank J. Jordan
(Name)

(Signature and Date)

01/22/02

Assistant Commissioner
for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT (A) AND
ENGLISH TRANSLATION OF SPECIFICATION AND
CLAIMS ALONG WITH DECLARATION OF TRANSLATOR**

Sir:

Preliminary to examination, please amend this application as follows:

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IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace indicated paragraphs of the specification with replacement paragraphs presented indicated below. Appendix II is attached hereto having marked versions of said indicated paragraphs with amendments indicated by brackets and underlining.

Page 1: between the title and the 1st full paragraph, insert the following heading:

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION:

1st full paragraph, change to read as follows:

The invention relates to a convertible with a roof which can be stowed in the rear region of the vehicle below a lid.

Page 2: Before the 1st full paragraph, insert the following heading:

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION:

Page 4: 2nd full paragraph, change to read as follows:

Further advantages and details arise out of the examples of the object of the invention, which are described below and shown in the accompanying drawings.

Between the 2nd and 3rd full paragraph, insert the following heading:

IN THE DRAWINGS:

Page 7: 6th full paragraph, change to read as follows:

Figure 22 shows a detailed view of the side arm of the auxiliary frame, as seen obliquely from the rear, and

Page 8: Before the 1st full paragraph, insert the following heading:

DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as shown re-written below with amendments effected therein. Appendix I is attached hereto having marked versions of said claims with amendments indicated by brackets and underlining.

5. (Amended) The convertible of claim 4, wherein the partial joints (15; 16) in each case comprise two joint points (21, 22; 25, 26) which are mounted at the coupling body (17).

6. (Amended) The convertible of claim 4, wherein the partial joint (15), assigned to the lid part (4), has two joint points (19; 20), which are mounted at the lid part (4), and the partial joint (16), assigned to the auxiliary frame (11), has two joint points (27, 28), which are mounted at the auxiliary frame (11).

7. (Amended) The convertible of claim 4, wherein the partial joint (16), which is connected with the auxiliary frame (11), causes the guide rod (23; 24) of the partial joint (15), which is connected with the lid part (4), to stand up over a movement of the auxiliary arm (11) and a coupling with the coupling body (17).

12. (Amended) The convertible vehicle of one of the claims 8 or 9, wherein at least one elongated hole, functioning as a sliding block guide (123; 124; 123.1) is constructed for shifting the joint point or points (118, 119, 118.1, 119.1) assigned to the auxiliary frame (111, 111.1).

13. (Amended) The convertible of one of the claims 8 or 9, wherein two joint points (118, 119) in the auxiliary frame (111) are held in two elongated holes (123; 124), which extend essentially linearly and, in the closed position, in the driving direction.

15. (Amended) The device of one of the claims 8 or 9, wherein the joint (114.1) is a quadruple joint and two of the joint points (118.1; 119.1) are assigned to the lid part (104) and two further ones to the auxiliary frame (111.1), the joint points (118.1; 119.1), assigned to the auxiliary frame (111.1), being moveable in a common sliding-block guide (123.1).

17. (Amended) The device of claim 14, wherein, when the lid part (104) is closed, the two joint points (118.1; 119.1), assigned to the auxiliary frame (111.1), are held in a, in the driving direction (F), extreme rear position.

REMARKS

Enclosed please find an English translation of the specification, claims and abstract along with a Declaration of Translator and a Notice to File Missing Parts of Nonprovisional Application dated November 20, 2001 and a Notice of Incomplete Reply (Nonprovisional) dated December 4, 2001.

The specification is amended to correct various typographical, grammatical and idiomatic informalities, and to place the application into proper conformance with U.S. patent practice.

The claims are amended to avoid having a multiple dependent claim depend on another multiple dependent claim.


There are now a total of 33 claims in this application. Please charge \$234.00 for the 13 additional claims (in excess of 20) at \$18.00 each to Deposit Account 10-1250. If there are any additional charges, please charge to the same Deposit Account No.

Please charge \$280.00 for a Multiple Dependent claim to Deposit Account 10-1250. If there are any additional charges, please charge to this same Deposit Account No.

It is respectfully requested that the first Official Action be directed to the application as amended herein.

Respectfully submitted,

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Enc.

Translation of Specification and claims and Declaration
of Translator

Notice to File Missing Parts of Nonprovisional Application
dated November 20, 2001

Notice of Incomplete Reply (Nonprovisional) dated
December 4, 2001

Appendix I (Amended Claims with Amendments Indicated
Therein by Brackets and Underlining)

Appendix II (Amended Specification Paragraphs with
Amendments Indicated Therein by Brackets and Underlining)



APPENDIX I

AMENDED CLAIMS WITH AMENDMENTS INDICATED THEREIN
BY BRACKETS AND UNDERLINING

5. (Amended) The convertible of [one of the claims 3 to 4] claim 4, wherein the partial joints (15; 16) in each case comprise two joint points (21, 22; 25, 26) which are mounted at the coupling body (17).

6. (Amended) The convertible of [one of the claims 3 to 5] claim 4, wherein the partial joint (15), assigned to the lid part (4), has two joint points (19; 20), which are mounted at the lid part (4), and the partial joint (16), assigned to the auxiliary frame (11), has two joint points (27, 28), which are mounted at the auxiliary frame (11).

7. (Amended) The convertible of [one of the claims 1 to 6] claim 4, wherein the partial joint (16), which is connected with the auxiliary frame (11), causes the guide rod (23; 24) of the partial joint (15), which is connected with the lid part (4), to stand up over a movement of the auxiliary arm (11) and a coupling with the coupling body (17).

12. (Amended) The convertible vehicle of one of the claims 8 [to 11] or 9, wherein at least one elongated hole, functioning as a sliding block guide (123; 124; 123.1) is constructed for shifting the joint point or points (118, 119, 118.1, 119.1) assigned to the auxiliary frame (111, 111.1).

13. (Amended) The convertible of one of the claims 8 [to 12] or 9, wherein two joint points (118, 119) in the auxiliary frame (111) are held in two elongated holes (123; 124), which extend essentially linearly and, in the closed position, in the driving direction.

15. (Amended) The device of one of the claims 8 [to 12] or 9, wherein the joint (114.1) is a quadruple joint and two of the joint points (118.1; 119.1) are assigned to the lid part (104) and two further ones to the auxiliary frame (111.1), the joint points (118.1; 119.1), assigned to the auxiliary frame (111.1), being moveable in a common sliding-block guide (123.1).

17. (Amended) The device of [one of the claims 14 or 15] claim 14, wherein, when the lid part (104) is closed, the two joint points (118.1; 119.1), assigned to the auxiliary frame (111.1), are held in a, in the driving direction (F), extreme rear position.

APPENDIX II**AMENDED SPECIFICATION PARAGRAPHS WITH AMENDMENTS
INDICATED THEREIN BY BRACKETS AND UNDERLINING**

Page 1: between the title and the 1st full paragraph, insert the following heading:

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION:

1st full paragraph, change to read as follows:

The invention relates to a convertible [of the introductory portion of claim 1, as well as to a convertible of the introductory portion of claim 8] with a roof which can be stowed in the rear region of the vehicle below a lid.

Page 2: Before the 1st full paragraph, insert the following heading:

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION:

2nd full paragraph, delete in its entirety:

[Pursuant to the invention, this objective is accomplished by a convertible with the distinguishing features of claim 1, as well as by a convertible, with the distinguishing features of claim 8, which can be realized

individually or in combination with one another. Advantageous developments are given in the dependent claims 2 to 7 and 9 to 17.]

Page 4: 2nd full paragraph, change to read as follows:

Further advantages and details arise out of the examples of the object of the invention, which are described below and shown in the [drawing, in which] accompanying drawings.

Between the 2nd and 3rd full paragraph, insert the following heading:

IN THE DRAWINGS:

Page 7: 6th full paragraph, change to read as follows:

Figure 22 shows a detailed view of the side arm of the auxiliary frame, as seen obliquely from the rear, and

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DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS: